

CLAIMS

We claims:

1. A method of locating a remote resource using a system core, the method comprising:
  - 5 receiving a query from a client;
  - sending a query from the system core to a remote core over a communication network; and
  - in response to the query, receiving from the remote core a message identifying a remote resource.
- 10 2. The method of Claim 1 further comprising:
  - prior to sending the query, running the query in an advertising service associated with the system core.
3. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
  - 15 prior to sending the query, authenticating the system core.
4. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
  - receiving a key ring from the remote core, the key ring representing the client's permission to access a resource registered in the remote core.
5. The method of Claim 1, wherein the query sent by the system core is run against an advertising service associated with the remote core.
- 20 6. The method of Claim 1, further comprising:
  - prior to sending the query, locating a remote core by:
    - accessing a portal;
    - sending a query to be run in the portal; and
    - receiving a connection object from the remote core associated with a
  - 25 remote advertising service matching the query run by the portal.
7. The method of Claim 6, further comprising:
  - establishing a connection with the remote core using the connection object;
  - retrieving an identification of a resource handler of a remote resource matching the query received from the client; and
  - 30 contacting the resource handler to access the remote resource.
8. A system for locating remote resources, the system comprising:
  - a system core connected to a communication network; and
  - a system core computer program executable by the system core, the system core computer program comprising computer instructions for:

receiving a query from a client;  
 sending the query to a remote core; and  
 in response to the query, receiving from the remote core a message  
 identifying a remote resource.

5           9.    The system of Claim 8 further comprising:  
               an advertising service associated with the system core;  
               wherein the system core computer program further comprises computer  
               instructions for:

                  running the query from the client against the advertising service prior to  
 10            sending the query.

              10.   The system of Claim 8 wherein the system core computer program further  
               comprises computer instructions for:

                  sending an authentication message to the remote core prior to sending the query.

15           11.   The system of Claim 8 wherein the system core computer program further  
               comprises computer instructions for:

                  receiving a key ring from the remote core, the key ring representing the client's  
                   permission to access a remote resource registered in the remote core.

20           12.   The system of Claim 8 further comprising:  
               a portal connected to the communication network;  
               wherein the system core computer program further comprises computer  
               instructions for:

                  locating the remote core by accessing the portal;  
                   sending a query to be run by the portal; and  
                   receiving a connection object from the remote core associated with a  
 25            remote advertising service matching the query run by the portal.

              13.   The system of Claim 12 wherein the system core computer program further  
               comprises computer instructions for:

                  sending the query to the remote core by invoking a connection with the remote  
                   core using the connection object; and

30            retrieving an identification of a resource handler from the remote core, wherein  
               the resource handler handles a remote resource matching the query received from the  
               client.